

budget proposal released by House Republicans yesterday.

In Las Vegas and across the country, Americans have made it clear that our budget should bolster a strong middle class and make serious investments in the next generation.

This Republican proposal, however, shrinks investments in infrastructure and education, cuts funding to research and development, eliminates the safety net for our most vulnerable citizens, and breaks the longtime promise to seniors by, once again, attacking the Medicare guarantee. These cuts undermine our short-term recovery, and they shortchange critical investments that will keep us competitive in the global economy.

In short, Republicans ignore solid American values, instead doubling down on inconsistent assumptions and budget gimmicks that just do not add up. This budget should have been released on Groundhog Day, but I guess that April Fool's Day is just as appropriate.

I say to you: Don't be fooled.

#### REMEMBERING RAY HUTCHISON— A TEXAS ICON

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Ray Hutchison, husband to our colleague, former Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, a great Texan and an even better friend.

Through his work in developing nearly every public works project in our area in the past 50 years, Ray Hutchison is leaving a lasting mark on the north Texas community. He was a driving force in creating the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, one of the largest airports in the country today, as well as developing the Dallas Area Rapid Transit system. He also contributed to several professional sporting facilities in the area. We can thank Ray Hutchison for moving the Washington Senators to Arlington in the early 1970s, giving us our beloved team, the Texas Rangers.

Ray's selflessness and abundant accomplishments are too great to list in just 1 minute, but I am proud to have known him. On behalf of the Texas delegation, I offer my sincerest condolences to former Senator Hutchison and to her children, Bailey and Houston.

#### DISCHARGE PETITION FOR BIPARTISAN, COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

(Mr. LOWENTHAL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, last week, I signed the discharge petition on H.R. 15, the bipartisan, comprehensive immigration reform bill.

Today, I stand with millions of families across our country to call upon Speaker BOEHNER to simply bring H.R. 15 to the floor of the House for a vote. This bill secures our borders, provides an earned pathway to citizenship, and increases economic opportunity for all Americans. We request a vote—no, we demand a vote. We demand a vote, Mr. Speaker.

We demand this vote because the American people are tired of living under a broken immigration system and seeing families broken apart. The American people know that passing this bill will save our country \$900 billion over the next two decades. We know that the American people overwhelmingly support immigration reform with a path to citizenship.

Mr. Speaker, give the American people that vote.

#### NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

(Mr. YODER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, not only is April National Autism Awareness Month, but more specifically, today, April 2, is World Autism Awareness Day. Today, we join with families all across the world in a sign of support, unity, and encouragement.

According to the Department of Health and Human Services, nearly one in 68 babies born will be diagnosed with some degree of autism. Families dealing with autism are in all of our districts, and they are in our communities. They are our neighbors, and they are our families and friends. Yet far too little awareness and support occurs for these families that are raising an autistic child.

April is one more opportunity to spread the word and remind others about autism, and to raise awareness about the importance of research and advocacy for Americans who are living with developmental disabilities. Families dealing with autism bear their challenges admirably and lovingly, raising children into adults who contribute to our country in so many ways. Today, we celebrate those families and their many accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize April as National Autism Awareness Month.

#### RYAN BUDGET PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015

(Mr. VEASEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, the Republicans released their budget blueprint to the American people.

Budgets are moral documents that reflect our priorities as a nation. Republicans have clearly outlined their priorities in this budget, which are:

raising taxes on the middle class, cutting taxes for multimillionaires, and hurting seniors by ending Medicare as we know it. The budget plan introduced this week offers no real solutions.

If your thing is massive cuts to nutrition, health care, and other critical supports that give low-income children and families a decent chance at life, then the Ryan budget is your deal.

Instead of making these hits on the middle class, we should focus on improving education, investing in domestic manufacturing, and paving the way for a good future.

Also troubling is that the Ryan budget rejects the opportunity to enact immigration reform, to raise the minimum wage, and to extend unemployment insurance, which would create jobs and strengthen our economy.

As elected leaders, we owe it to the American people to invest in them, not to cut the safety net from under them.

#### MARFA, TEXAS

(Mr. GALLEGOS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GALLEGOS. Mr. Speaker, today, in my 23-in-1 journey, I would like to take you to a beautiful city in West Texas known as Marfa.

Established in 1883 as a water stop for the railroad, Marfa has become a cultural mixing bowl, with cowboys and artists alike. Located in the Trans-Pecos area at an altitude of over 4,800 feet and situated on what is known as the Marfa Plateau, it is surrounded by a beautiful landscape that has served as the backdrop to many notable movies, like the film "Giant," starring James Dean and Elizabeth Taylor.

Despite having a population of only 2,000 people, Marfa has become a hidden cultural hub in the desert. It is a place filled with cowboys and art galleries, Mexican food and Texas barbecue.

In Marfa, you will find one of the most beautiful, historic courthouses in Texas. The antelope literally play amongst the rich outdoor art, and the tourists come to relax, surrounded by big city culture in a town with only one traffic light.

In Marfa, the old crashes with the new to form a harmony that is truly American. I am honored to represent a city so rich in art, cultural life, and history. Mr. Speaker, I invite everyone to Marfa.

#### AN AFFRONT TO DEMOCRACY

(Ms. SHEA-PORTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Mr. Speaker, the Supreme Court's conservative majority has decided the very wealthiest Americans should now be allowed to have even more influence in politics to advance their personal or political or business agendas.

The Court has allowed even more money into campaigns, and this threatens to drown out the voices of ordinary citizens.

Today's Supreme Court McCutcheon decision is the worst affront to democracy since Citizens United. Congress must take action.

#### COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

(Mr. PERLMUTTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, just give us a vote. Just give us a vote on comprehensive immigration reform.

The United States Senate passed a bill almost a year ago, in a bipartisan fashion, on comprehensive immigration reform. Americans want comprehensive immigration reform.

We have a bill, H.R. 15, which provides for comprehensive immigration reform. It would pass this House, but for some reason or another, the Republican majority will not bring it up. It will not allow the House to vote on it.

The Senate had the courage to vote on it. The House ought to bring this up and pass comprehensive immigration reform. It can be done this week or next week. Let's get it done. Just give us a vote.

#### FUNDING FOR THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, the other week, I met with leaders of the San Diego medical research community, who had a unified message: we need to end the cuts in research that have slowed medical innovation for the last decade.

I am proud to be leading the bipartisan effort, along with nearly 200 of my colleagues, to push for over \$32 billion in Federal funding for the NIH.

This is a very personal issue. Almost all of us know someone who is struggling with a disease for which the National Institutes of Health funding is used to find a cure. That person could be a mother, a father, a family friend or, even more heart-wrenching, a child. The disease could be cancer, Alzheimer's, diabetes, MS, or any of the other diseases that people face every day.

It is more than a matter of scientific research; it is a matter of economics. For a generation, California has been a world leader in life sciences innovation, and our State is home to the most jobs, to the most companies, to the world's greatest concentration of top-tier research institutions. It is time to reverse the budget cuts that threaten this ecosystem and to increase the NIH budget to \$32 billion.

#### RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, all across America and around the world, the men and women in the United States military serve us and serve us well.

Would you wonder whether or not their families back home would be eligible for an increase in the minimum wage?

Their families may be blue-collar workers or workers in the service industries, and here they are, willing to sacrifice their lives, and we here in the United States Congress won't raise the minimum wage to \$10.10. What an outrage. Even the possible compromise that is percolating around has the audacity to suggest that \$7.25 is okay, that we will raise it just a little bit. But you don't understand the facts: \$10.10 is over a 3-year period.

Then today, on the floor of the House, a brilliant idea. H.R. 2575, I believe is the name. This one wants to eliminate the opportunity of those who are working 30 hours a week to get health care. Across the way, in the Budget hearing, the Republican budget is cutting trillions of dollars in social services and Medicaid.

Raise the minimum wage. Take the American people off of social needs, social assistance. Stop the tomfoolery of turning this country backwards.

□ 1230

#### PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2575, SAVE AMERICAN WORKERS ACT OF 2014

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 530 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 530

*Resolved*, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 2575) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the 30-hour threshold for classification as a full-time employee for purposes of the employer mandate in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and replace it with 40 hours. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) three hours of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means; and (2) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 530 provides for consideration of a critical piece of legislation passed out of the Ways and Means Committee designed to address a critical flaw in the Affordable Care Act, which is causing workers to lose hours at their job and thus lose wages to help put food on their tables and feed their families and pay their utility bills to heat their homes in the winter and cool their homes in the summer.

H.R. 2575, the bipartisan Save American Workers Act of 2014, fixes this flaw by changing the newly created labor rule in the Affordable Care Act, which defines full-time work at 30 hours per week and places that definition back where the American public has always believed it to be, at 40 hours per week.

The rule before us today provides for 3 hours of debate. That is triple the standard hour of debate that most bills before this body receive. This is done in order to fully discuss this important labor issue affecting so many Americans.

To maintain this targeted focus—the exact kind of fix that the President claims he is interested in discussing with Republicans in order to make his law more workable—no amendments were made in order. This allows the House to fully debate this crucial issue without the possibility of unrelated issues being brought into the debate.

Indeed, this bill is so targeted, dealing with one single provision in the Affordable Care Act, that it does not repeal the Affordable Care Act—a charge I have no doubt we will hear several times over today—but in fact simply changes a definition in the bill.

Moreover, during the markup of this legislation in the Ways and Means Committee, no amendments were offered by either the majority or the minority. As always, the minority is afforded the customary motion to recommit on the bill.

Mr. Speaker, as a result of the Affordable Care Act's requirement that businesses with 50 or more employees provide health insurance coverage to those employees working 30 or more hours a week, employers across the Nation—from schools to universities to municipalities to restaurants—are being forced to cut workers' hours or face unsustainable employment costs to their businesses and organizations.